



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11**  
**Series of 2020**

**AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES TO HELP MINIMIZE THE  
TRANSMISSION OF COVID-19 IN GENERAL SANTOS CITY**

**WHEREAS**, Under Section 15, Article II of the Philippine Constitution it is the State's Policy to protect and promote the right to health of the people;

**WHEREAS**, The Office of the President has issued Proclamation No. 922 s. 2020 Declaring a State of Public Health Emergency Throughout The Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, the Secretary of Health has confirmed the local transmission of the Corona Virus Disease (CoViD-19) in the country;

**WHEREAS**, The declaration of a State of Public Health Emergency would capacitate government agencies and LGUs to immediately act to prevent loss of life, utilize appropriate resources to implement urgent and critical measures to contain or prevent the spread of CoVid-19, mitigate its effects and impact to the community, and prevent serious disruption of the functioning of the government and the community;

**WHEREAS**, Under Section 455, Article I, Chapter III of the Local Government Code the City Mayor, as chief executive of the city government, shall exercise powers and perform duties and function to promote the general welfare of the city and its inhabitants

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONNEL CHUA RIVERA**, Mayor of the city of General Santos, by the powers vested in me by the Constitution and the law, hereby proclaim as follows:

**SECTION 1:** With the recent declaration of the Code Red alert by the national government because of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (CoViD-19), the City Government of General Santos will implement the following measures to minimize the effects of the said virus.

**SECTION 2:** The LGU and all government agencies in the city are encouraged to minimize unnecessary mass gatherings in the city;

1. All programs and activities of the local government unit of General Santos City which involves mass gatherings will be re-evaluated by the City Administrators Office to assess its importance and will be canceled pending evaluation.
2. Mass gatherings where attendees are composed of people coming mostly from areas outside of General Santos City will be canceled.
3. Employees of the LGU and government offices in the city are not allowed to receive groups of visitors in the office unless deemed necessary. Visitations and appointments in all offices will be limited to official transactions only.
4. Private groups, business establishments, and other offices are strongly advised to postpone non-essential mass gatherings.
5. Schools are also strongly advised to adjust their school calendar and postpone graduations or other mass gathering activities until further notice is received from the Department of Education and Commission on Higher Education.

**SECTION 3:** Hand washing and cleaning stations, and disinfection of public offices and public establishments.



- A. LGU employees are instructed to clean and disinfect their personal spaces and offices, and areas that are frequently used by the public. Department heads and other heads of offices are hereby ordered to create a regular disinfection protocol for their offices and submit it to the City Mayor's Office for comments and evaluation.
- B. Instead of its regular flag-raising and flag-retreat ceremony, the LGU and other government agencies in the city will conduct office-based flag ceremonies and prayers, including important announcements, and more importantly, simultaneous disinfection and cleaning of their offices until further notice.
- C. Hand washing areas or sanitizers and alcohol should be made available for the public before entering and leaving government offices.
- D. Everybody is advised to wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- E. Public places where people frequently gather such as business establishments, malls, market, parks, hotels, restaurants, banks, churches and other places of worship, educational facilities, ports, terminals, airports, and other similarly described establishments is directed to provide hand washing, sanitizing, or disinfection stations and protocols in place. Managers, owners, and administrators of these facilities shall furnish the City Mayor's Office (CMO) with a copy of their established protocols within seven (7) days of the release of this EO.
- F. Church and civic organizations should come out with their guidelines in the conduct of their activities for the observance of their programs or religious activities such as the coming Lenten Season, Ramadan, and/or any other religious and non-religious activities. The same with any other mass gatherings; all rituals, programs, ceremonies, and activities that can be dispensed with is highly encouraged. Leaders and administrators of these facilities shall furnish the City Mayor's Office (CMO) with a copy of their established protocols within seven (7) days of the release of this EO.
- G. All restaurants, eatery, food serving, and food preparing establishments and businesses in the city are ordered to fortify their sanitation and hygiene practices including preparing their employees and food handlers concerning the possible spread of the COVID-19 and other diseases. Managers, owners, and administrators of these facilities shall furnish the City Mayor's Office (CMO) with a copy of their established protocols within seven (7) days of the release of this EO.
- H. Malls, pharmacies, stores, and other sellers of medical supplies are strongly advised to limit the sales of alcohol, disinfectants, masks, and other medical supplies per individual to avoid hoarding.

#### **SECTION 4: Monitoring of people and employees.**

- A. LGU employees, government employees, or private individuals who show flu-like symptoms, fever, cough, cold, body malaise, diarrhea, and shortness of breath shall seek immediate medical attention and should follow necessary medical protocols before reporting back to work or going out in public.
- B. The LGU along with the local and national agencies (PNP, AFP, DOH, BOQ, and other offices) shall establish a two-layered checkpoint for land vehicles entering the city to screen travelers, tourists, and visitors coming into the city by land for possible signs and symptoms of the CoVid-19, and easier contact tracing if the need arises.
- C. The LGU along with the local and national agencies (PNP, AFP, DOH, BOQ, CAAP, and other offices) shall establish a protocol to screen travelers, tourists, and visitors coming into the city by airports to check for travel history in the past 14 days, possible signs and symptoms of the CoVid-19, and for easier contact tracing if the need arises.



- D. The LGU along with the local and national agencies (PNP, AFP, DOH, BOQ, PPA, MARINA, PCG, and other offices) shall establish a protocol to screen travelers, tourists, and visitors coming into the city by seaports to check for travel history in the past 14 days, possible signs and symptoms of the CoVid-19, and for easier contact tracing if the need arises.

**SECTION 5:** Despite all these precautions, let it be noted that there shall be no disruption in the delivery of basic government services in all appropriate government buildings and offices under the local government unit of General Santos City.

**SECTION 6:** We also encourage the public to stop sharing wrong, false, and unverified information about the CoVid 19 virus online or on social media. The Local Government Unit will not hesitate to file appropriate charges to those individuals found to be maliciously making, sharing, and manufacturing false content online.

**SECTION 7:** The city will adapt, the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) advice for preventive actions to help stop the spread of respiratory diseases including COVID-19, and the CDC recommendation for using a facemask:

- A. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- B. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- C. Stay home when you are sick.
- D. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- E. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- F.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USING A FACEMASK:**

- A. It is not recommended for people who are healthy to wear a facemask
- B. Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID 19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others.
- C. Facemasks are also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings.

**SECTION 8: REPEALING CLAUSE.** All orders, issuances and memoranda issued inconsistent herewith are deemed superseded, cancelled and/or revoked.

**SECTION 9: SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Order not otherwise affected shall remain in full force.

**SECTION 10: EFFECTIVITY.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done this 11 day of March 2020 at General Santos City, Philippines.

  
**RONNEL C. RIVERA**  
City Mayor